

WILSON PLACES GAG ON HOUSE AND LANSING

Cables Colonel He Is Convinced People Overwhelmingly Back League.

MESSAGE IS SURPRISE

American Correspondents Send Opposite Tips to French and British Papers.

By LAURENCE HILLS.

Staff Correspondent of THE SUN.

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PARIS, March 4.—President Wilson's return to Paris is awaited now with an interest and expectancy scarcely exceeded by that which marked his first advent in Europe. This is because of the tremendous questions that are pressing for solution, but have been held up on the President's account.

Interest in the President's departure from America was accentuated to-day when it became known that the President, on the eve of sailing, had cabled to Col. E. M. House, who is acting as his representative here, that he is convinced the American people are overwhelmingly behind the League of Nations.

Col. House has shown the cablegram to close friends with great satisfaction. It caused some surprise, because American correspondents of the British and French papers in the last few days have thrown some doubt on the outcome of the issue, nearly all agreeing that the President has not changed the opposition.

Wants Decisions Postponed.

In mission circles the House cablegram is accepted as an indication that the President does not intend to suggest many changes in the covenant of the league when he arrives here. While the President is on the ocean neither Col. House nor Secretary Lansing will make any comment on the United States or any pending question, the President having asked by cable that all decisions be postponed until he arrived in Paris.

Some of the questions which are so numerous and so important that there is much speculation in the newspapers as to whether this programme can be followed. The French, the Americans and the Jugo-Slav problems all have been held up for the President's arrival. Each is bristling with perplexities and is intended to cause great discussion.

The freedom of the seas also, it now appears, has not been limited by the league plan, as the President intimated to his friends. The French intend to bring it up and to demand a new codification of sea rules. They point out also that the present covenant sanctions the arbitration of war in certain cases, hence sea rules are important and the present uncertainty is giving rise to much dissatisfaction.

Setting of the Stage.

With the arrival of Premier Lloyd George to-morrow evening and of Premier Orlando at the end of the week the stage will be set for President Wilson's second advent and the climax of the Peace Conference.

The peace points out that the bases of peace still are in suspension, namely, the League of Nations and German disarmament, and it calls particular attention to the situation in the United States, saying that when the President invokes the new Congress he will find the majority opposed to his policy. It adds:

"In this assembly, to which the treaty must be submitted, it is Senator Lodge who will be the principal authority on foreign policy, and he has just criticized severely the draft upon which the League of Nations is supposed to rest."

Europe's Financial Problem.

The more the financial problem in Europe is studied the more colossal it appears. The American financial experts of the peace mission, since they have been brought face to face with the problem and its divergent interests, are not inclined to view the situation optimistically, saying that it is had enough as a purely financial question, but with politics injected into it, it seems at times well nigh hopeless.

Frank A. Vandenberg, who came to London to study financial conditions, and to whom it was advisable that New York banking interests should extend private credit here in order to encourage the resumption of business, found financial conditions so chaotic that he decided before he sailed for home it would be most unwise to make any advances.

An American financier connected with the peace mission said it should be admitted that Europe is virtually bankrupt and she might as well hang out the red flag. The people have been told that a huge sum would be exacted from Germany, sufficient to make good the food deficit, and now the politicians dare not inform the public that this is impossible, although they admit it themselves.

False Hope Extended.

Germany will be compelled to pay all that it is possible to extract from her without causing revolution and anarchy in that country, but this sum will not begin to make good the deficit. There must be a tremendous increase in general taxation or virtual confiscation of a certain proportion of capital. The Governments, however, are afraid to increase taxes twofold and they continue to extend the false hope of an allocation of the combined war debts among the Allies, under which the United States should have to assume a huge share.

French financiers have been told by the Americans that they cannot expect any help of this kind from America, but the agitation continues in the newspapers. It is admitted now that if Germany is to pay \$20,000,000,000 or \$25,000,000,000 in twenty-five years it will mean that the entire German public debt amounting to \$40,000,000,000 must be defaulted.

This might be held to be repudiation in effect, but the financiers will not admit that it is quite as bad as this. Germany owes this amount to her own people mostly, but the question now arises as to what condition the people will be left in if the internal debt should be defaulted. This is only one of many problems arising from a survey of the economic and financial situation incident to peace.

New Commission Appointed.

Almost every day it is necessary to appoint some new commission. One just named, with Bernard J. Baruch as the American member, is to study the question whether enemy countries shall be allowed to place their own public debt ahead of the reparation claims. Another problem the commission is to take up is when enemy territory has been divided how shall the debt be allocated?

This is a tremendous problem, as it involves the almost a great question of coöperation. Five different systems of coöperation are in use in Poland, and in Czechoslovakia it is almost as bad. The Czechs rapidly are becoming worth-

less, increasing the discontent of the people and the danger of Bolshevism. The latest trouble over the German food payments is due largely to the French financial situation, France being unwilling to see any of the quick assets of Germany used in settlement for supplies of food. The British and Americans take the view that it is either food for Germany or starvation and Bolshevism within a month, and they may succeed in persuading France to allow Germany to pay in three ways; a small amount in gold and securities, a part in commodities, including coal, and the remainder in notes.

PEACE COMMISSIONS NEAR END OF LABORS

Decision Reached to Change Dutch-Belgian Boundary.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, March 4.—Most of the commissions of the Peace Conference are nearing the end of their work. Four made great progress to-day, the most important development being a decision regarding a revision of the treaty of 1839 relative to the boundaries between Belgium and Holland. The waterways and ports commission also is finishing the draft of a report which excludes coastal all the way from the North Sea to the English Channel.

So general has been the progress made that it was said to-day all reports might be expected to be ready for consideration by President Wilson on March 14, in which case he will review them in four days, so that a plenary meeting of the Peace Conference may be held before March 21.

New economic and financial commissions will soon be added to the Peace Conference organization. The commissions each will comprise ten members from the four Powers, and the members from the minor Powers combined. The economic commission will take up the subjects of customs regulation, the disposition of private contracts between citizens of Entente countries and those of the Central Powers, the status of enemy citizens in allied countries and the fate of the private treaties made before the war.

The task of the financial commission will be to decide how the enemy countries shall pay their debts. He as public debts shall be apportioned among the enemy countries whose boundaries change as a result of the peace treaty, and what disposition shall be made of the paper money now in circulation. It will also frame an agreement as to international currency, study measures for the protection of the financial interests of the Allies in enemy countries and consider the elimination of enemy nations from international financial arrangements as exist in China, Turkey and Greece.

Minor Powers Protest.

Some of the delegates of the minor Powers refused to accept the proposal that the minor Powers have only five representatives. According to a Havas Agency report these delegates demanded ten representatives of the same number allotted to the great Powers.

Julius Cambon, who presided at the meeting, suggested that they put their claims on the subject in writing. He assured the delegates the great Powers, as on similar occasions in the past, would give the fullest consideration to the views of the minor Powers. The suggestion failed to satisfy the objecting delegates as did a proposal by M. Politis, the Greek Foreign Minister, that the Greek delegation be given the same number of delegates as the other Allies, and there and also after later if the representation of the minor Powers was increased to ten.

The South American delegates took the lead in refusing any compromise on the subject. Enrique Dorn y de Alsua, the Ecuadorian Minister in Paris, and Dr. Epitacio Pessoa, the head of the Brazilian delegation, were particularly firm in their attitude. The meeting adjourned without reaching a decision.

FRANCE HAS PLAN TO NEUTRALIZE RHINE

Favors Creation of Rhenish-Westphalian State.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN from the London Times Service.

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By G. S. ADAM.

PARIS, March 4.—The French do not deem the security afforded by the League of Nations as sufficient even after very thorough disarming of Germany and even if the Allies are able to lay down in detail the organization of the future armies east of the Rhine.

In any great European conflict France is sure to receive the first big blow, and it is only thanks to German possession of both banks of the Rhine that she has been enabled to launch what was practically a surprise attack in overwhelming numbers.

Strategically therefore the Rhine is the only frontier which really guarantees France against fresh invasion. Politically, however, that frontier would have very many drawbacks. France has no desire to create on the left bank another Alsace-Lorraine, but she wants to deprive those regions of their military value to Germany and particularly to Prussia.

The surest way of doing this would be to favor the development of a republic neutral, both in political and military matters and close the door against German invasion over the Rhine. Many writers have pointed out how useful it would be to assist in the birth of a Rhenish-Westphalian State.

PLANE PROVIDES LUXURY.

Handley Page Exhibits Machine With Passenger Saloon.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN from the London Times Service.

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LONDON, March 4.—Handley Page, the airplane builder, has on exhibition the fuselage of an extraordinary two-engine machine formerly used as a bomber over the Rhine. It has the new well appointed passenger saloon extending full width and about one-third of the length. The fuselage is six and one-half feet high and has armchairs for seventeen passengers, all facing forward, besides windows with a gangway between the seats. There are lamps and mirrors.

This plane is only half the size of the giant Handley Pages, but it makes more than one hundred miles an hour. With two 350 horse-power engines, the Handley Page carried 700 passengers to France last month.

Argentina Bringing 3,600.

MARDELLE, March 4.—The steamship Argentina has sailed for New York with 3,500 American troops aboard.

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GERMANS TO STOP FIGHTING IN POSEN

Government Sends Officers to That City to Enforce Its Order.

ALLIED MISSION IS THERE

It Is Enthusiastically Received and Is Quartered in Royal Castle.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, March 4.—The German Government has informed Gen. du Pont, the head of the French Mission in Berlin, that it has decided to stop fighting the Poles in Posen. The Government has sent officers to Posen to enforce its order against fighting.

Posen, March 1 (delayed).—Members of the international mission to Poland arrived here from Warsaw on a special train to-day for negotiations with the Germans. The chief questions brought up are the fixing of the line of demarcation between the Polish and German forces and to make arrangements regarding the treatment of Poles in territory assigned to Germany and Germans remaining in territory assigned to Poland. This section of the mission is headed by M. Nolens, former French Ambassador to Russia, with Gen. Kernan representing the United States. Other members of the mission from the United States probably will come to Posen later.

It is not certain that the conference with the Germans planned to take place here will be held as originally proposed, however, as the German representatives have refused to come to Posen, which they regard as a German city at present in a state of insurrection. They suggested Bromberg, three hours by rail northeast of Posen, as one alternative of meeting. Should either Bromberg or Pabource, one hour distant from Posen, prove unsatisfactory, the mission will continue to reside in Posen and travel to the meeting place every day.

The mission was enthusiastically received here. In response to the official welcome M. Nolens said: "We look upon Posen as a part of Poland." Loud cheering followed this remark. The mission is quartered in the royal castle built ten years ago, in opening which Emperor William declared it was intended for the seat of Prussian domination over Poland and indicate that Germany's future was in the East.

CHINA TO USE AIRPLANES.

Government to Establish Regular Transport Service.

By the Associated Press.

PEKING, March 2 (delayed).—The Chinese Government is preparing to begin an aerial transport and mail service, and has appointed Gen. Ting, the director of the Pekin-Suiyuan railway, to be director of the Chinese aerial service. Airplanes will be used in connecting Kalgan, an important caravan center, with Siberia, and also in traversing the Gobi Desert.

The success of the British with airplane transport in India is believed to have inspired the Chinese Government to make plans for this form of transport. The Chinese are particularly firm in their attitude. The meeting adjourned without reaching a decision.

WOMAN DRINKS POISON.

Several Notes Left by Mrs. Clara Rylander.

A young woman describing herself as Mrs. Clara Rylander was found yesterday unconscious in bed in Mrs. Matilda Plunkett's furnished room house, 109 South Elliott place, Brooklyn. Stains on her mouth and hand indicated she had tried to die by poison.

One of several notes found in the room read as follows: "George, I am in the wrong and want to tell you so. I am sorry. Mrs. Plunkett told the police that when the woman rented the room she said that her husband, George Rylander, would occupy it with her Monday night. However, she had no call."

The second note read: "Ernest, I do love you. Forgive me. I don't know what to write. No words will come to me. Your mother and every one is down on me now. Oh, God, why am I so bad? Oh! if only I had my chance over again; but it's too late. Please don't let my going on my finger and let me die."

The woman was taken to Brooklyn Hospital and booked on a charge of attempt to commit suicide. It was said last night she was getting better.

WOMAN WINS AN ELECTION.

Peekskill Voters Choose Mrs. Barmore for Treasurer.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y., March 4.—Mrs. Henrietta Lane Barmore, candidate for Peekskill, was elected village treasurer, was elected here to-day, and is given credit for carrying practically her whole ticket to victory. Max Solomon, Republican, was the defeated candidate. Mrs. Barmore's plurality was 1,041.

Mrs. Barmore's husband was a village fireman and lost his life a year ago in the performance of his duty. There were nearly 5,000 votes cast, and due to Mrs. Barmore's candidacy there were more women than male voters.

The big surprise was the defeat of President Taft by Mr. Wilson, who was making reelection. Ellen A. Wood obtained a plurality of 939 votes. Both men are lawyers. William Horton, Democrat, was elected village trustee over Harry Griffen, and Lawrence Atherton and A. G. Anderson are tied for the other Trusteeship. John Conklin was elected Assessor over James Dimond and George Wood and Richard Rixon defeated Thomas Timmons and Richard Mansfield for Water Commissioners.

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MANY CHANGES FOR EUROPE'S FRONTIERS

Peace Conference Commission Almost Ready to Report on New Map.

POLES AND SERBS GAIN

Greece to Take Bulgarian Thrace—Venizelos Wins for Hellenism.

Special Wireless Despatch to THE SUN.

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PARIS, March 4.—The work of the territorial commissions of the Peace Conference, which have been grappling for several weeks with the diverse and exceedingly complex nationality problems of Balkans, drawing new boundaries, has been reaching a stage of completion. Many more or less important territorial questions have been solved already, so that when President Wilson arrives he will have placed before him what is virtually a new map of central and eastern Europe.

In the absence of definite official reports as to the findings of the commissions, subject of course to revision by the recently created superior commission for territorial questions, which is responsible directly to the Council of Ten.

Czechoslovakia Favored.

The frontiers of Czechoslovakia on the Austrian and Hungarian sides have been drawn with considerable generosity to the Czechoslovakians. Presburg becomes a Bohemian city. No decision has been reached yet regarding the district of Teachen, in dispute between the Poles and the Czechs, but it is believed that in compensation offered to the Czech Government at the expense of the Austrians and Magyars the disputed region will go to Poland, with certain economic privileges in the mining region reserved for the Czechoslovakians.

Rumania's dispute with Serbia appears to have been decided in favor of the latter, the greater part of the Banat of Temesvar going to Serbia. The commission studying the problem has suggested the establishment of a bridgehead opposite Belgrade, delimiting the Jugo-Slav border north of the Danube. Rumania's pretensions to Transylvania and the Dobruja have been recognized irregularly; the disposition of Bessarabia and Bukovina appear to be awaiting decision, pending some sort of solution of the Russian problem.

In the meantime Rumania has received considerable Hungarian regions peopled by Ruthenians, an ethnographically isolated group without any particular choice as to the regime under which it will live.

Bulgarian Thrace to Greece.

The claims of Greece have received considerable support, and although the commission concerned with its problems has not yet terminated its labors, some of the earlier decisions indicate that the whole of Bulgarian Thrace will go to Greece and that the question of Epirus hangs in the balance. Italy has ranged herself on the side of Albania, which disputes the ownership with Greece. The problem contains the seeds of dissension and is likely to be submitted to arbitration by the five

Powers. In another direction Premier Venizelos has won a great victory for Hellenism; Smyrna, its hinterland, in spite of stiff opposition, is to be annexed by Greece. Armenia, Palestine, Arabia and Syria have been placed in a special category under the new commission charged with liquidating the remnants of the defunct Turkish Empire. Its first decision, agreed to in principle, concerns the establishment of an international regime at Constantinople.

TWO CONVICTS FLEE IN STOLEN MOTOR

Caught Several Hours Later After Their Gasoline Is Exhausted.

Stealing an automobile to flee in

George McGuire, 18, of New Rochelle, and Abraham Rosenzweig, 24, of Manhattan, two convicts in the New York city reformatory at New Hampton, made a bolt for liberty but were recaptured yesterday after a motor chase. A posse of guards, State constabulary and local police hunted them several hours.

Not alone did Rosenzweig, who is serving time for stealing automobiles, ply his old "trade," but with revolvers some one smuggled to the prisoners before they fled the pair held up E. A. Stanton in Woodbourne and made him surrender sufficient gasoline to enable them to continue their flight in the stolen machine another thirty miles. The pair, who had several more months to serve, will be prosecuted now for robbery and jail breaking.

First intimation outsiders received that the prisoners had escaped was given in an alarm to the State constabulary at the Spring Valley station. They were asked to look for a Buick car late Monday night which the fugitives had commandeered in Middletown, where they found it with the engine running.

According to Warden Louis Law's deputy the men were missed about the time prisoners were ordered to retire Monday night. Their blue uniforms were found cast away on the grounds. They had swapped them for civilian clothes belonging to two keepers.

Somehow they got revolvers. After fleeing across fields and over roads they walked into Middletown unnoticed and stole an automobile. Chief of Police McCooch got another machine and set out in the direction the stolen one had gone. Major Law's assistants and keepers in three other machines and State troopers joined the chase. After the convicts had gone several miles their gas was running out, so they stopped in Stanton's garage, and threatening his life if he refused made him replenish their tank. Then off they sped again.

Shortly after daylight yesterday the stolen car was found stalled near Fallburgh. The gasoline had been exhausted. The posse decided to search along the Ontario and Western tracks, and after prying into several freight cars found the runaways hidden in a cement car and handcuffed them. They were returned to their cells at noon.

Dr. J. Frank Smith Recovering.

Dr. J. Frank Smith, moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, who has been seriously ill at the Presbyterian Hospital, was reported yesterday to be out of danger. He became ill at the close of a campaign in behalf of the Presbyterian New York movement, which involved making addresses in many big cities from coast to coast. Dr. Smith's wife has arrived here from their home in Dallas, Tex.

BIG BRITISH ARMY MEANS NEW DRAFT

Triumph for Churchill Is Seen in Victory of Troop Bill.

GERMAN CURB IS SOUGHT

Press Urges Reduction of Tonic Power to Lowest Point.

Special Wireless Despatch to THE SUN.

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LONDON, March 4.—The huge British army estimates of \$2,000,000,000 submitted by Winston Spencer Churchill, the Minister of War, which are about ten times the size of the last budget before the first year of the war, came through the trying ordeal of submission to the House of Commons with flying colors.

It is hailed in political and newspaper circles as a personal triumph for Churchill, who, in stating it, is said, the highest expectations of his admirers, and again is stepping into the first rank of statesmen.

Plan for Huge Army.

However, although the newspapers in general accord Secretary Churchill well merited praise, they do not hesitate to criticize the significance of this huge sum devoted exclusively to purposes of war. Almost without exception it is agreed that the maintenance of an army of 2,000,000 men, exclusive of the British imperial forces, will necessitate the reestablishment of British conscription.

That will be in direct opposition to the policy outlined in the proposed League of Nations, although it is emphasized that Churchill's estimates are of a provisional character and it is impossible to argue rationally what military precautions are necessary until the full peace terms regarding Germany are known, whether Germany will accept the terms and what guarantees the Allies will demand for their execution. It is precisely on that point that the British press is inclined to question the wisdom of the policy, not of the British War Office, but of the British Government and of the Allies in general.

The Evening Standard says: "It has always seemed to us that the first step toward a general settlement should be the complete disarmament of Germany, but we have seen with some astonishment and concern perpetual postponements of this operation."

Crush German Power.

"Once Germany has been made helpless, her military forces reduced to the peace level, her armament factories demolished or converted to peace uses, her strategic points and communications under the control of the Allies, the task of maintaining armies of occupation will be quite measurable. We do not see, for example, any necessity for a British force on the Rhine of almost 500,000 men if Germany were rendered actually harmless. It is the merest common sense to insure that Germany's existing forces shall be reduced to 200,000 men and that she shall spend nothing for the expansion of armament until the full claims of the Allies have been satisfied."

The Westminster Gazette commented on the effect which the estimates will

produce on the proposed League of Nations. The paper said:

"We do not blame Churchill, who as Minister of War is only performing his task, but we had better realize quickly this picture of the future which he paints so vividly, so full of war and lamentation, destruction, the bankruptcy of mankind altogether, ourselves included, unless we find a way out, and a way out must be found now or the cautious, half-hearted promises of future relief which Churchill holds out will prove quite illusory."

"The decision is a matter of a few weeks or months at most. If at the end of the Paris conference the League of Nations idea has failed all the nations will get started again on schemes for the future such as Secretary Churchill unfolded in the House of Commons. Every Cabinet is going to follow the example of the British Cabinet and put its most alive and most inventive members into the business of developing and reorganizing its military machine."

"There will be no going back, for the machine will be the pace of its own momentum and the League of Nations will be powerless against the conspiracy of money, brain and professional arms to spread through and either in all countries to promote the grim business of war."

Other press comment is devoted to the bill itself.

TROTSKY SEES WORLD RULE.

Says Propaganda Will Be Carried to United States.

GENEVA, March 4.—Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik War Minister, has written from Moscow under date of February 14 to a friend here claiming that Bolshevism is spreading throughout Russia and Siberia. He declares in this letter that after peace is signed a new campaign will be started among the workers of the world to fight imperialism and capitalism. Trotsky asks his friends to cooperate with him. He says he is in close cooperation with Premier Lenin, boasts that success for the Bolsheviks has already been gained in Germany through the Spartacists, and declares his belief that Bolshevism will eventually rule the world.

French Filers' U. S. Visit.

PARIS, March 4.—The French military aviation mission, which is about to leave for the United States, will visit the principal American cities and the aviators attached to it will make short flights of about 150 miles. Capt. de Lavergne, head of the mission, informs the Echo de Paris.

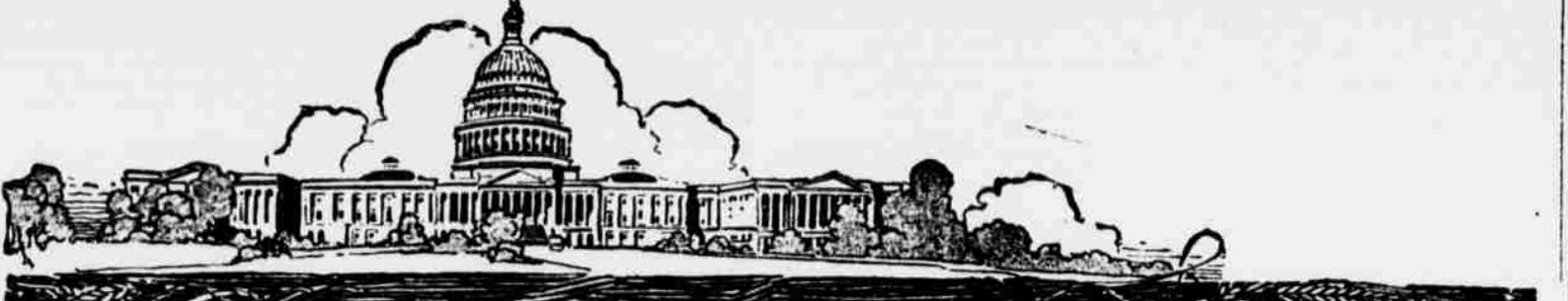
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